

LAW OFFICE

**MCLEOD, WATKINSON & MILLER**

MICHAEL R. MCLEOD  
WAYNE R. WATKINSON  
MARC E. MILLER  
RICHARD T. ROSSIER  
CHARLES A. SPITULNIK  
RICHARD PASCO  
PAUL D. SMOLINSKY

ONE MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.  
SUITE 800  
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-1401  
(202) 842-2345  
TELECOPY (202) 408-7763

KATHRYN A. KLEIMAN  
OF COUNSEL  
(\*Admitted in Virginia only)

ROBERT RANDALL GREEN  
LAURA L. PHELPS  
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

STEPHEN FRERICH  
ECONOMIST

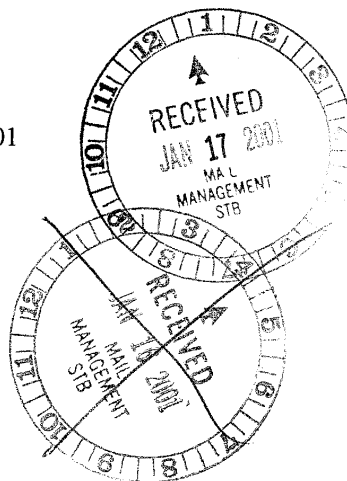
**ENTERED**  
**Office of the Secretary**

**JAN 17 2001**

**Part of  
Public Record**

January 16, 2001

Honorable Vernon A. Williams  
Office of the Secretary  
Case Control Unit  
Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 582  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

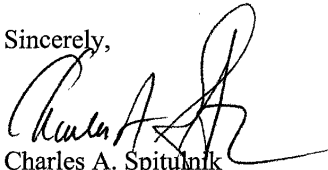


Re: *Major Rail Consolidation Procedures*  
Ex Parte 582 (Sub-No. 1)

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing an original and twenty-five (25) copies of the Motion of Southern California Regional Rail Authority For Leave To File Rebuttal Comments Out Of Time and the Rebuttal Comments of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority in the above-referenced proceeding. An additional copy is enclosed for date-stamp and return to our messenger. Please note that a copy of this filing is also enclosed on a 3.5 inch diskette in WordPerfect format.

Sincerely,



Charles A. Spitulnik

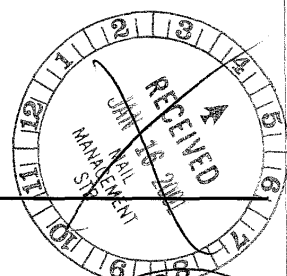
Enclosure

cc: Julia M. Farr, Esquire  
Surface Transportation Board

201337

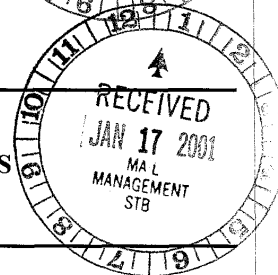
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**JAN 17 2001**  
**Part of**  
**Public Record**

Before the  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD  
Washington, D.C. 20423



Ex Parte 582 (Sub-No.1)

**MAJOR RAIL CONSOLIDATION PROCEDURES**



**MOTION OF  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY  
FOR LEAVE TO FILE REBUTTAL COMMENTS OUT OF TIME**

The Southern California Regional Rail Authority ("SCRRA") hereby moves this Board pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §§1104.7(b) and 1117.1 for an extension of the time for filing Rebuttal Comments, or in the alternative, for leave to file such comments, time for filing having otherwise expired, in the above-referenced proceeding. Good cause exists for granting the motion, and neither this Board nor any party will be prejudiced by granting the Motion. In anticipation of a favorable ruling on this Motion, a copy of the Rebuttal Comments of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority are attached to this Motion for filing today.

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking issued in this proceeding on October 3, 2000 ("NPRM") established a schedule for filing comments, replies and rebuttal. Comments were due on November 17, 2000, Reply Comments were due on December 18, 2000, and Rebuttal comments were due on January 11, 2001. SCRRA filed Comments (jointly with Maryland Mass Transit Administration on behalf of MARC Rail Service) and Reply Comments on the respective due dates. Undersigned counsel for SCRRA received other parties' Reply Comments near the

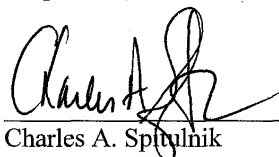
due date, though many were received late due to other parties' continued transmittal of those Replies to counsel's prior address.<sup>1</sup> However, counsel was prevented by a family medical situation from turning attention immediately to reviewing and preparing rebuttal to the numerous Reply Comments served on December 18.

Neither any other party nor this Board will be prejudiced by the acceptance of these Rebuttal Comments. They are filed today, only three business days after the scheduled due date. They do not broaden in any way the issues presented in this proceeding, focusing instead on correcting misstatements of fact or mischaracterizations of SCRRA's previously articulated positions in this proceeding. Indeed, not only will the issues not be broadened, accepting SCRRA's Rebuttal Comments will ensure the development of a complete and accurate record in this proceeding.

WHEREFORE, and in view of all of the foregoing, SCRRA respectfully requests the Board to grant its Motion for an extension of the time for filing Rebuttal Comments, or in the alternative, for leave to file such comments, time for filing having otherwise expired.

Dated: January 16, 2001

Respectfully submitted,



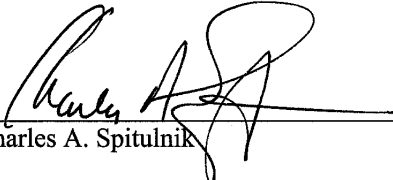
Charles A. Spitulnik  
McLeod, Watkinson & Miller  
One Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
(202) 842-2345  
Counsel for Southern California  
Regional Rail Authority

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<sup>1</sup> Counsel filed a Notice of Change of Address in Ex Parte 582 on August 7, 2000, and has submitted other pleadings in this proceeding showing the correct address since that time.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2001, a copy of the Motion of Southern California Regional Rail Authority For Leave To File Rebuttal Comments Out Of Time was served by first class mail, postage pre-paid upon all Parties of Record.

  
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Charles A. Spitulnik